bBr 415.10.1

ORVILLE D. LOVELL,
OSTERVILLE,
MASS

Osterville December 2/11

Prof William Brewster
Brattle Street
Cambridge Mass

My Dear Sir

I am advised, that you are now the "President" of the "Mass Audubon Society" & as such I venture to present for your kind consideration, the intended (local) "Open Season" bill, that I now intend to present, to the coming "Great & General" "Court" for their action thereon, the bill will read about thuswise; viz——

for an Open Season from October 25th" to May 1st" following, on 3 birds, known as the "Whistler, Shelldrake, & Coot," for the Counties of Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket, said birds shall not be, offered or sold, in the open market, at any time, of the year, penalty for so doing $5, (or $10,) for each bird, so offered, or sold," (the proper names will be given to each bird in the bill) ——

2 Dec 11

2/ Now I desire to Explain, as to the Whistler
(Especially), we get no Whistlers about here (in
any numbers) until say January 15th, & for
the Month of February & March.
The ~~spring~~ fall Shelldrakes, arrive here about
October 25th to Nov 1st, & again about
April 15th, all as you are well aware,
stop with us, but a few days & are
gone, we desire these birds (what few we
can get) for food, & not for Sale; & the
prices paid for them, in the market, do not
warrant the sending them. As for Sales,
& whether it does so or not, I have so
arranged the bill, so as to prevent all
Sales being made, now, I have fought
your honored Society,
& went down to defeat, (as best I could)
& I would like
to know if we cannot meet, (as I am
assured we can); on this common
Ground; as for food uses only of the
birds; & as for a local bill, that all
the people, of the several Counties want,
as far as my knowledge Extends,
I shall (if you so desire); be glad

2 Dec 11

3/

To come up to Boston, to see you in regard to this matter (further); but I desired first, to present to you our & my views; & to see if we cannot eliminate, the opposition of your Society; & also of your good self. It is an uphill fight for me & for us; but we came within 14 votes of winning in the House last winter, & we "won out" in the Senate, & I was then assured, if I had (then) incorporated the present suggested Market Clause, I would have carried the House, as (the bill) then would have appealed as for "fair play", & food for the poor man. I have cut the time in the fall, from Sept 16th (over a month) to October 25th as we are after these food birds, & then "only" & not a Duck is ever shot (to my knowledge), over shelldrake & whistler decoys; The Coot, you know about, a "Robber of Scallop beds", & a bird although good for food, should never have been protected at all;

4/

2 Dec 11

Kindly excuse long letter, on this subject, it is very close to us all hereabouts; & we only desire a little of the liberty our fathers held, over the "birds of passage"; awaiting your kind reply for which I enclose a stamped & addressed envelope I remain & yours very truly

Orville D Lovell

PS I simply desire to say (in this PS) that for the last 20 years only 1 Black Duck ever came to my whistler & Sheldrake Decoys & you can judge how many would be so attracted; ODL

ORVILLE B. LOVELL,
OSTERVILLE,
MASS.

Osterville December 6th/11

Prof William Brewster,
President Mass Audubon Society,
145 Brattle Street,
Cambridge, Mass,

My Dear Sir

Your kind & welcome letter of Dec 4th" before me, & I beg to thank you kindly for the same, my present object in again troubling you as with my letter is, to request you, as soon as is convenient, to advise me, as to the action to be taken by your Directors, & Society, as favor as against, my proposed bill, outlined to you, in mine (to you) of date of Dec 2/11 I would much appreciate the informat-ion, as soon as possible, after your action thereon, so I can know what steps to take", as to the matter; I shall very much appreciate a letter from your honored self, & whether or not our warfare

3/

6 Dec 11

Ends (as between myself (for the Common people), & your Society (as for the Richer & more influential classes)), or still continues, as in the past; I shall try to so conduct my part of the struggle, that I may retain my own self respect, & I trust yours also; I hope whatever the outcome, to have the pleasure of your personal acquaintance later, & with kind regards, I remain &c

Yours very truly

Orville D Lovell,

P S Should you conclude, that you desired my presence, to come before your Directors, or yourself, kindly advise, & I will try to meet your wishes in the matter; yours (again)

ODL

ORVILLE D. LOWELL,
OSTERVILLE,
MASS.

Osterville December 17th/11

Prof William Brewster
Cambridge Mass

My Dear Sir

Yours of 15th at hand, notifying me of the decision of your directors as to my proposed "Open Season Bill", to be brot before the coming Legislature I __thank__ __you__ for your __kind__ __frankness__, in stating the positions of your directors & of your society as well; It is what I __feared__, but what I __tried__ to avoid, by a "local, and" "non Marketable bill", but as I have fought, for now __over__ 30 __years__ your society, I might as well keep up the fight, to the last; of one thing I am assured, sooner or later; "we will conquer" and our former vested rights, __will__ __come__ __back__ to __us__, this I __fully__ believe; "it is written" & of another thing I am also fully assured, & that is I __have__ __nothing__ __to__ __loose__ and your

2/

17 Dec 11

Society has all & more than all in the balance; However, & whatever the result, I shall not be discouraged, but still "keep at it," as I have always done heretofore, out of this all, is one gleam of consolation & enjoyment for me, & that is, your kind words, and your kinder invitation, to (unofficially) meet me some day, in a friendly manner; I assure you, I shall take the first opportunity to meet a gentleman, I know only through my correspondence, but whom I appreciate highly; with kindest wishes for you personally, for all the coming days; I remain &c

Yours very Truly

Orville D. Lovel